MARCONI'S SPEEDY COMET: SHARNE—P.5

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FIFA
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Hungary, Chile may be our June guests

Hungary and Chile are likely to make up the foursome for Australia's Centenary Tournament in June.

If negotiations succeed, they will take the place of Yugoslavia and Wales who have withdrawn.

Northern Ireland and Australia will be the other two participants.

Both Hungary and Chile have agreed to send their strongest national sides.

Hungary's Olympic team will be in Moscow in June — but that is really the country's 'B' team as no player is eligible for the Olympics who has appeared in any World Cup games.

The Hungarians are likely to bring all their current stars, such as Andras Torocsik, Tibor Nyilasi, Bela Varady and Sandor Pinter.

Chile, always one of the strongest South American teams, is certain to put on an entertaining show.

They missed the 1978 World Cup finals but have since recovered sufficiently to be rated fourth in South America, behind Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay.

This will be the first visit to Australia by both national teams.

Australia played Chile once, in 1974 in the Berlin Olympic Stadium, for a 0-0 draw in the World Cup.

Significantly, Australia has never lost to any South American side yet.

Apart from the scoreless draw with Chile, we played a 2-2 with Santos, a 2-2 with Uruguay in Melbourne and then beat them 3-1 in Sydney.

Whether Hungary or Chile will play here depends now on Northern Ireland's willingness to put back their arrival here by one week.

Harry Cavan, the Northern Irish FIFA executive who was in Sydney last week, promised ASF secretary Brian Le Fevre that he would do everything possible to make the Irish accept the new tournament dates.

Support the company that supports soccer

Saint's Nigel Groome (left) watches Leichhardt's Phil O'Connor sending in a cross last Sunday.

CUP DRAW IN SYDNEY

The draw for next year's World Youth Championship finals will be made in Sydney next April.

FIFA assistant secretary general Rene Courte said this before flying back with his delegation to Zurich last weekend.

"The elimination rounds would be completed by March 31, 1981," he said.

"The draw always takes place in the host country. From what I understand, Sydney will be chosen.

"The event is likely to be televised to the 16 participating countries."

He said it was up to the ASF to decide where the final of the tournament would be held.

Earlier it was thought that Sydney's Cricket Ground would be the venue.

However, the FIFA delegation had a very low opinion of this venerated ground and they may recommend to the ASF an alternate stadium, even different city.

• **Rene Courte on our facilities and preparedness — page 6.**

BRIAN'S BACK

Good news front: after several weeks of illness including an operation, ASF secretary Brian Le Fevre returned to his office this week.

Because he still has difficulty in sitting at a desk for long hours, he spends only about half a day in his office.

But even the rest of the time he's involved as ever at home.

At his elbow is a dictating machine, on his desk within easy reach the phone and he is still running the show.

Let's hope that within a few weeks the popular Brian Le Fevre will fully recover.

Ampol final Friday night

The 24th Ampol Cup final in NSW will be played on Friday evening at the Sportsground — and a new name will adorn the prestigious trophy.

Neither Croatia nor Olympic (nee Pan Hellenic) ever managed to win in the past though, in 1969, Pan Hellenic lost the final narrowly, 3-2, to Prague.

Croatia, on the other hand, never even made the final before.

Although the PSL clubs didn't take part this year, the Ampol Cup still carried a lot of glamour.

It is, apart from the actual premiership, the oldest surviving regular competition in NSW.

Ampol's steadfast support of soccer over the years has grown to generous proportions and the competing teams — and their players — will reap their reward on Friday.

• **Full preview inside.**

2 TO 6

Conducted by Val Hokin and Emmanuel Kanna

Hawkesbury District (6th div.) appointed Duncan Wilson, former Scottish League and Sydney State League player coach with John Josevski as his assistant. The club has been fortunate in gaining sponsorship from the Fitzroy Hotel, Windsors, whose manager is Lou Cerone. The team's strip has changed to sky blue with maroon trim. The club treasurer John Wilkes, has undertaken the task of looking into the purchase of land and a corporation status for the club looking at a future home ground and club premises. The club played trial matches recently against Haberfield Blue Cucks, with Hawkesbury winning both grades 3-0. 1st grade scorers were Greg Edmunds, Guy Avery and Burnie Chellingworth, for the reserves, J. Ward, Tom Christou and Shyne Harridine.

□ □ □

Liverpool City (6th div.) played Penrith (1st div.Nepean Assoc.) recently and won 5-1. D. Haigh had an exceptional game in midfield. Goal scorers were John Ross (2), D. Haigh (1), H. Maude (1), and A. Posadas (1). Reserve grade drew 3-3 after coming back from 1-3. Scorers were Kevin Connor, D. Duran (2).

□ □ □

Ashcroft (3rd div.) had applied to the NSW Federation for a name change to Liverpool Albions. This has been approved. The Albions played trials against Namatjira recently with a 2-2 result in the first grade and a 1-0 win for Namatjira in the reserves. Scorers for Albions were Andy Everett and Stephen Bower.

□ □ □

Holroyd Rangers (4th div.) played Fairfield Kiev in a trial match, winning 5-2. Last year's 36-year-old John Secondo (Poncho) has been appointed coach of first grade while Albio Aguilar will look after the reserves.

□ □ □

Padstow Park (4th div.) at last have secured a home ground for this season at Walshaw Park in Bass Hill. The club has just received approval and has made all financial arrangements for work to start on their new field on club premises at Padstow. Padstow has also gained new players, among them, Andrew Alvares from Paddington Spanish, Ray Coleman, a local player, Peter Copas from Revesby Rovers and a clever striker, Graham Reece.

□ □ □

Bonnyrigg Eagles (3rd div.) played Maroubra in a trial game in torrential and windy conditions the previous weekend. The Eagles won 4-1 in the 2nd grade but lost 0-3 in the firsts. The club has re-appointed Michael Tooma as coach for first grade and an ex-Bonnyrigg player, Sankho Zorzan as coach of the second grade. Six new players have joined the club among which are Milo Dordevic, a first grade goalkeeper. Milo has in the past played for Avala and was with Yugal in '79.

□ □ □

Lane Cove (2nd div.) appointed Ian Westbrook as the first grade coach with Keith Birbsell, ex-Ku-ring-gai player and coach, as his assistant. This season the club has 23 junior teams, 2 ladies, 1 all age and 3 federation — an increase of five teams.

□ □ □

Baulkham Hills (2nd div.) have appointed George McCulloch as the Federation squad coach with two assistants and manager Doug Welsman. The club will have 41 association teams from under-6s to all-age. The under-6s and 7s are kept within the club environment with the emphasis being placed on skills.

□ □ □

Campbelltown City (2nd div.) is approaching the 1980 premiership season with much hope and plenty of enthusiasm. The whole squad has been in training since November in preparation for the play-off matches against Port Hacking and West Ryde Rovers for the vacant position in 2nd division. The club has completed successfully in the Bulli Knock-Out and was the highest goalscorer of that competition for the second year in succession.

The club is also involved in the 1980 Umbro Cup.

Their home ground, Rangers Road (Lynwood Park) consists of two grounds. The main one is fully enclosed and a first class watering system was recently installed.

□ □ □

Liverpool Rangers (6th div.) beat East Bankstown 5-2 in first grade and 4-1 in reserve grade. Goal scorers for reserve grade were, Neil Jarvis (2), Jim Herbert (1) and D. Denton (1). First grade goals were scored by Mark Winton (a hat-trick), Mick Evans (1) and Wayne Bodman (1). Phillip Bull is Rangers' longest serving player, having been with the club for 15 years and is now in the Federation squad. Also Kerry Wilkins played 13 years with the club and went to Auburn for two years but is now back with the Rangers. Liverpool Rangers only played a reserve grade match last weekend for a 7-1 win against Mt. Pritchard reserves.

□ □ □

SOCCER INJURIES

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CLUB PATROL

Rumours are floating around the Parramatta area that there are some officials in both Parramatta and Auburn who are considering the chances of a merger between the two clubs' soccer teams.

• • •

Sutherland have appointed a new second grade coach in JOHN BURROWS.

• • •

Canterbury-Marrickville's NORM PENMAN has resumed training after an operation on his knee.

• • •

The Arncliffe Scots soccer club is planning a big get-together on March 28. The function is for all sections of the soccer club, from Federation teams, to All-Age sides, women teams, and youth league sides. Officials are hoping that all Scots supporters will attend to help build up the club spirit, as well as meeting the people who run the club's various sections.

• • •

Former Arncliffe Scots president TERRY BYRNE at present living in England, was due to return to Australia at the end of the month. However, he has written saying he intends staying a while longer. Arncliffe don't want to let his services go to 'waste' and they have asked him to act as a talent scout in Britain.

• • •

Sutherland's defender KEITH SCHUMANN who was hesitating about re-signing with the club this year, has joined up and is fast approaching peak fitness.

"I'm not going out with that footballer again, mum. He keeps making passes"

• • •

Canterbury's JIMMY BINOS, who broke his ankle a few weeks ago, has made a remarkable recovery and already has had the plaster removed from his injured foot. Club officials say he is walking around normally now and will probably start training again quite soon.

• • •

All pensioners and children will be admitted free of charge to Sutherland's home games this year. The decision was made to encourage family groups to go along to the Sharks' home matches at Seymour Shaw.

• • •

Club officials at Sutherland are hoping that young striker PAUL BUSH returns to training soon. Paul's older brother TONY is establishing himself in the first team and has had some creditable performances. Seventeen-year-old Paul, also a striker, is hailed as being as good as his brother, but hasn't yet resumed training this year.

• • •

Canterbury have re-signed a former club player JOHN KARASPIROS, who spent some time with Olympic.

• • •

Former Arncliffe Scots stalwart ALLAN PIGGOT is now the player coach at West St.George. Several other former Scots players are at West St.George including Alan's brother ANDREW PIGGOT and BRUCE CUNEO.

• • •

The general complaint about the postponement of last week's matches was that the season is already too long, with not enough chances for breaks, and unnecessary cancellations just waste precious time.

• • •

Arncliffe Scots were glad of last week's respite because it gave STEVE LEAK the chance to recover from a muscle strain.

• • •

Parramatta star striker TIM O'MAYE will probably leave the club within the next week or so. Club officials revealed that Tim recently got engaged and plans to move to Queensland to live.

• • •

Croatia officials are pleased with the performances of young TONY REZO in the first team. Although only 16, they feel he will get more chances in the side this year.

• • •

Croatia officials say their King Tomislav ground at Edensor Park will be gradually improved. The next stage is to build a covered stand, a project aimed for some time next year.

• • •

A youngster signed up by Blacktown recently is GAVIN LANDON, formerly from Sutherland. Sutherland officials rated him as a top prospect and were naturally disappointed when he left the club.

• • •

Canterbury have signed a new goalkeeper, to strengthen that position in the club. The new signing is former Melbourne Slavia goalkeeper ALEX McPHERSON. The 22-year-old goalie trialled with St.George before being snapped up by Canterbury.

10 YEARS AGO ...20 YEARS AGO .... 10 YEARS AGO 20 YEARS AGO.. 10YEARS AGO...

March 18, 1960:

"A NSW under-16 team will tour New Zealand in May...Any donations could be sent to the NSW Junior Soccer Association Tour Fund..."

★ ★ ★

March 18, 1960:

"Greek clubs Hellenic and Yarra Park have amalgamated with long established South Melbourne. The new club has been renamed South Melbourne Hellas and will share Middle Park with Hakoah."

★ ★ ★

March 20, 1970:

"Bobby Charlton, the world famous Manchester United star, will spend two weeks in Australia in July. Charlton has been invited by a newspaper organisation to do some coaching of juniors, appear on TV and play exhibition games."

★ ★ ★

March 20, 1970:

[At the AGM of the ASF]"...serious doubt was expressed on the recovery of claims made to FIFA for considerable expenses made in connection with certain World Cup matches which forced Australiafin 1969/ to travel halfway around the world. The new president, Arthur George intimated that he would be visiting Zurich in a personal capacity and at his own expense and would try to arrange a meeting with the Finance Committee of FIFA about the claim."

★ ★ ★

March 20, 1970:

"A committee of study which will be asked to make firm proposals for the re-organisation of the ASF, will be formed soon."

★ ★ ★

CAMPBELLTOWN IS PROMOTED

The results of the play-off series were as follows:
West Ryde Rovers v Port Hacking 3-2; Campbelltown City v West Ryde Rovers 2-0; Port Hacking v Campbelltown City 0-1.

Campbelltown City will now be promoted to the second division.

SOCCER WORLD

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SCOREBOARD

	Marconi	Heidelberg	Sydney City	Brisbane City	Adelaide City	Newcastle	W.Adelaide	Leichhardt	Brisb.Lions	Footscray	St.George	Canberra	S.Melbourne	Blacktown
Marconi	★													9-0
Heidelberg		★					4-2							
Sydney City	2-1		★											
Brisbane City				★						1-1				
Adelaide City				0-0	★									
Newcastle			0-3			★								
W.Adelaide						1-1	★							
Leichhardt					2-1			★						
Brisb.Lions									★				1-2	
Footscray										★				
St.George								1-0			★			
Canberra									2-4			★		
S.Melbourne		0-0											★	
Blacktown											4-2			★

PHILIPS SOCCER LEAGUE

"Derby Italiano" to pack Lambert Park

— Andrew Dettre —

It's pretty early in the season yet the weekend's round will produce yet another summit clash when Sydney City play host to Heidelberg at the Sportsground.

The only team on maximum points, Sydney are in overpowering form — a bit unusual for them in March.

Still, I'm sure they won't quibble about this or their lead which point to a perfect timing in the team's preparations.

This match will line up a veritable star parade in both teams and Sydney fans will have the chance to see Tansey, Rooney, Yzendoorn, Paton and the goal-sharp Cole in action.

Sydney will start warm favorites and should add two more points to their tally.

Our tip: Sydney City 2-1.

The big "Italian derby" will be at Lambert Park where Leichhardt, still waiting for their Scottish reinforcements, will face the might of Marconi.

Leichhardt won't reach their peak for a while yet but even so, could be expected to have a lot more bite than last Sunday when they submitted rather meekly.

The narrow pitch will suit Leichhardt's tighter style whereas the Marconi Maulers prefer the wide open spaces for their lightning fast moves.

It's doubtful whether Marconi can repeat their brilliant show of last week — but the opposition will be also of a different calibre.

Still, unless form goes completely haywire, we expect the visitors to grab the points.

Our tip: Marconi 2-0.

The third Sydney match will be at Gabbie where the shattered Blacktown will try to put the pieces together against a surprisingly struggling Newcastle.

Blacktown may be on the weak side — but last week's debacle was as much a suicide as murder.

Surely their defence cannot possibly be as lax again, giving the freedom of the park to the opponents.

Newcastle, one suspects, are about to click; after all, they are full of talented and mainly young players.

Our tip: Newcastle 3-1.

Canberra and Adelaide City should play a highly entertaining game at Bruce.

Both have started off rather poorly, especially Adelaide City, having gained one miserable point in two outings.

A lot depends on the Canberra strikers; the big question is how long it will take them to blend.

Both teams like to play open, attacking stuff and it wouldn't be surprising if the crowd saw a fair number of goals in a very close encounter.

Our tip: Adelaide City 3-2.

West Adelaide, another poor starter, won't have it very easy against the revived South Melbourne at home.

Admittedly Chaldi's boys pegged back a 4-0 deficit to a respectable 4-2 last week — but they still lost and, what's worse, conceded too many goals.

South Melbourne appear to have shaken off their 1979 blues though, we feel, it's too early for them to have visions of their fine 1978 achievements being repeated.

West Adelaide will fight tooth and nail to stay in contention and could make amends.

Our tip: West Adelaide 1-0.

St.George, with a rejuvenated side, will travel to Queensland to contest the points with Brisbane City.

The hosts play a disciplined, even tough game which could unhinge the St.George youngsters.

Experience is on Brisbane City's side and so will be the crowd and home ground advantage.

Our tip: Brisbane City 2-1.

Footscray, having rested last weekend, will be at home to Lions and the points at stake here may be vital later on if both teams find the going a bit rough.

There is no question of Footscray's ability — it's their power and fitness that often lets them down.

Lions, shock losers last week at home, will try to use their superior speed and strength to steal the match and may go very close to this.

Our tip: 1-1 draw.

PAST RESULTS

	1977	1978	1979
Sydney City v Heidelberg	1-1	2-1	1-3
West Adelaide v Sth.Melbourne	1-1	3-1	0-1
Blacktown v Newcastle	—	—	—
Leichhardt v Marconi	—	—	0-0
Brisbane City v St.George	1-1	1-4	4-0
Canberra v Adelaide City	1-1	2-2	0-2
Footscray v Brisbane Lions	4-2	4-0	3-1

TOP SCORERS

Krncevic (Marconi)	5
Cole (Heidelberg)	3
Jankovics (Marconi)	3
Boden (Sydney City)	2

CANBERRA

The new playing strip adopted by Canberra City is not as attractive as the previous one was — all blue and yellow.

The new strip is all blue with a white and yellow band at the waist.

It looks cumbersome and drab while the red numbers on the back are virtually illegible.

One suggestion is to use this as the second strip — and return to the previous smart design.

★ ★ ★

Terry Byrne has pulled a leg muscle in a weekend trial match and is unlikely to play on Sunday against Adelaide City.

★ ★ ★

The Canberra City sports star of the week contest is proving very successful with Canberra schools.

Each week all schools pick their own star in any sport and the winner gets a free ticket to the next Canberra City home match.

The sports masters of the competing schools get a free pass to all home matches of City.

At the end of the PSL season all weekly winners will take part in a special carnival.

— P. Kunz

OFFICIAL PROGRAM OF THE PSL

THIS WEEK

SATURDAY, MARCH 22

Footscray v Brisbane Lions		Middle Park	3.00pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 23

Sydney City	v Heidelberg Utd.	Syd.Sports Grd	3.00pm
West Adelaide	v South Melbourne	Hindmarsh	2.30pm
Blacktown City	v Newcastle KB	Gabbie Stad.	3.00pm
Leichhardt	v Marconi	Lambert Park	3.00pm
Brisbane City	v St.George	Perry Park	3.00pm
Canberra City	v Adelaide City	Bruce Stadium	3.00pm

NEXT WEEK

SUNDAY, MARCH 30

Heidelberg United v Blacktown C.	Olympic Park	3.00pm
South Melbourne v Sydney City	Middle Park	3.00pm
Brisbane Lions v West Adelaide	Lions Stadium	2.30pm
Newcastle KB Utd. v Leichhardt	Int.Spt.Centre	2.30pm
Marconi v Brisbane City	Marconi Stadium	3.00pm
St.George v Canberra City	Barton Stadium	3.00pm
Adelaide City v Footscray	Olympic Sp. Fld.	2.30pm

Paul Kay (left), 17, hurdles past Leichhardt defenders O'Donnell and Wilson (on ground).

CLUB MARCONI

VENETO NIGHT

Guest artist John Dinale

First prize in the raffle: Return trip to Italy
★ Smorgasbord ★ Dancing till 1am ★ Admission $3

PHILIPS LEAGUE TABLE

	AGGREGATE P	W	D	L	F	A	±	P	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	P	AWAY P	W	D	L	F	A	P
1. SYDNEY CITY	2	2	—	—	5	1	+4	4	1	1	—	—	2	1	2	1	1	—	—	3	—	2
2. HEIDELBERG	2	1	1	—	4	2	+2	3	1	1	—	—	4	2	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
3. STH.MELBOURNE	2	1	1	—	2	1	+1	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	2	1	2
4. MARCONI	2	1	—	1	10	2	+8	2	1	1	—	—	9	—	2	1	—	—	1	1	2	—
5. BRISBANE LIONS	2	1	—	1	5	4	+1	2	1	—	—	1	1	2	—	1	1	—	—	4	2	2
6. LEICHHARDT	2	1	—	1	2	2	0	2	1	1	—	—	2	1	2	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
7. BRISBANE CITY	2	—	2	—	1	1	0	2	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
8. ST.GEORGE	2	1	—	1	3	4	−1	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	1	2	4	—
9. BLACKTOWN	2	1	—	1	4	11	−7	2	1	1	—	—	4	2	2	1	—	—	1	—	9	—
10. FOOTSCRAY	1	—	1	—	1	1	0	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	1
11. ADELAIDE CITY	2	—	1	1	1	2	−1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	2	—
12. WEST ADELAIDE	2	—	1	1	3	5	−2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	4	—
13. NEWCASTLE	2	—	1	1	1	4	−3	1	1	—	—	1	—	3	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	1
14. CANBERRA	1	—	—	1	2	4	−2	—	1	—	—	1	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

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Westfield SHOPPINGTOWN

... the way to shop around

1

ST.GEORGE 1(1)
LEICHHARDT 0

Goal: Kay (5m).

ST.GEORGE: D.Smith 3, Groome 3, McIntosh 4, Utjesenovic 4, Terry 2, Mihajlovic 2, (Bullock 50m), **Kay 5**, Davies 3, Beggs 3, **Katholos 5**, Griffith 3. **Coach:**R. Blanco.

LEICHHARDT: Woodhouse 3, McGinn 3, McAusland 2, Bradley 4, Wilson 4, Dempsey 3, Drews 2, O'Donnell 2 (Pullen 46m), Morsello 2, Stone 4, O'Connor 3. **Coach:** W. Wallace.

Referee: A. Boskovic; **Crowd:** 3,864; **Caution:** Kay.

The lethargic, lacklustre performance of Leichhardt made the Saints look better than they actually were but there can be no doubt that St.George were worthy of their victory.

They were more positive and aggressive from start to finish and were more willing to win the ball, back up and run off the ball, a department in which they were matched only by Stone and Bradley from Leichhardt.

Katholos and Kay in midfield played like young superstars for St.George and were the architects of their victory.

O'Connor sparkled for Leichhardt only occasionally against his former club but McIntosh' complete command of the air with Utjesenovic picking up what was left on the ground gave the undersized and very ordinary Leichhardt strikers only a few meagre scraps.

Neither team created too many first class scoring chances. The best move of the day produced the winner in the 5th minute.

Kay in midfield found Davies who beat his man, found space and returned a perfect pass to Kay who had covered 40 metres by this time and then drew Woodhouse before placing the ball out of his reach with a left foot drive into the corner of the net.

The expected reaction from Leichhardt didn't materialise. Disjointed and continually backing off the Saints' midfielders and defenders, who were always prepared to push into the attack, Leichhardt found themselves forced back for most of the game.

Indeed, had Mihajlovic, who was beating his man with monotonous regularity, not been so selfish and released the balls earlier, Saints would have had half a dozen gilt-edged chances to increase their lead.

Even after halftime Leichhardt lacked fire and aggression and while the Saints slowed down, an attitude that could have been fatal against better opposition, there was never any doubt which team on the day was better and which one would win.

St.George had two goals disallowed for offside in the last half hour one of which at least seemed a little harsh.

— Roger Dewick

2

MARCONI 9(0)
BLACKTOWN 0

Goals: Krncevic 4 (22,23,63,75m.), Jankovics 3 (48, 59, 70m), Sharne (61m), Vieri (65m).

MARCONI: Maher 4, Brogan 4, Prskalo 3, **Mariani 5**, Degney 3, Bryne 3, **Vieri 5**, Raskopoulos 4, **Sharne 5**, **Krncevic 5**, Jankovics 4. **Coach:** L. Scheinflug.

BLACKTOWN: James 2, Harris 3, Turnbull 4, Stowell 3, Taylor 2, (Pena 46m), Harding 2, Pollard 2, Ortega 2 (Dalton 71m), Fisher 2, Wilkinson 2, Amey 3. **Coach:** M. Jones.

Referee: R. Lorenc; **Crowd:** 5,500; **Caution:** Turnbull.

This was the time when the Goliath ate David, slingshot and all; it was worse than a gangland execution in the Bronx.

From the first kick Marconi took complete charge and handed out a hiding Blacktown won't forget for some time.

It took 22 minutes for Marconi to post their first goal, when Sharne's perfect cross was brilliantly headed home by Krncevic.

One minute later, from a Raskopoulos pass, Krncevic dummied, turned and smashed home a tremendous left-foot drive from 20-metres.

One or two missed chances and narrow Blacktown escapes ended the half, not yet giving a hint of the avalanche to come.

But it came, with awesome fury, sweeping Blacktown into near oblivion.

Seven more goals fell in 27 minutes, with almost monotonous regularity — and at least another five golden chances were frittered away in the style of the nouveau riche.

Brogan's fierce shot, partly parried, was rammed home by Jankovics first, then Sharne wriggled through on the wing, slipping a perfect pass to Jankovics and it was 4-0.

The next three came in a four-minute spell: Byrne's cross was headed down by Jankovics for Sharne to slam it home on the turn with his "weak" left foot; Krncevic walked in beating a lame offside trap and then a Vieri freekick ricocheted into the corner, grazing somebody's head.

A Sharne solo paved the way for No.8 when Krncevic's shot rebounded from the post for Jankovics and then, the coup de grace, when Vieri stole a bad pass and sent Krncevic through for a simple one.

After this what can one say? Marconi were at their scintillating best while Blacktown were sadly, cruelly outclassed.

Much tighter and younger defences than Blacktown's will find it difficult to contain the Marconi attack but perhaps few will collapse so completely and irretrievably.

— Andrew Deitre

3

ADELAIDE CITY 0
BRISBANE CITY 0

ADELAIDE CITY: Marshall 4, Dods 4, Jones 4, Russell 3, B. Nyskohus 4, Perin 3(Muir 76m), Muniz 3 (Melta 57m), Northcote 4, Deans 4, J. Nyskohus 4, **Marocchi 5. Coach:** R. Rasic.

BRISBANE CITY: Wishart 5, Potter 4, Ratcliffe 4, Wilkinson 4, Caldwell 3, Perry 4, Gaffney 3, Coyne 4, Palinkas 3, Kelso 4, Low 3. **Coach:** N. Saftich.

Referee: D. Campbell (SA); **Crowd:** 4,137; **Cautions:** Caldwell, Kelso.

Adelaide City "celebrated" their fourth anniversary of PSL opening home game failures with this goalless effort against Brisbane City.

If a draw and the resultant point gained can be classified as a failure, then Adelaide City failed for sure.

It seemed on Sunday that Brisbane City, who have suffered the same opening home game jinx since 1977, were determined that Adelaide should share their embarrassment.

The Queenslanders defended dourly and relied upon counterpunch breakaways from big Barry Kelso to manufacture scoring chances.

Kelso and new signing, Joe Palinkas, gave Adelaide City some anxious moments, but the real heart-rending missed scoring chances story belonged to the home team.

Brisbane City had the let-off of the season 10 minutes before halftime when Dixie Deans blasted the ball over a yawning open goal after Gary Marocchi cut back a pass from the goalline.

There were other less obvious misses from Rale Rasic's Raiders, but Brisbane also had their goalkeeper, Kim Wishart, to thank for keeping the score blank.

The giant custodian made two superb saves in the 8th minute from shots by Agenor Muniz and Johnny Nyskohus and he foiled Deans with a daring dive at the 29th minute mark.

Wishart had to enlist the aid of defender, David Ratcliffe, to head a late attempt from Jimbo Muir off the goalline, but minutes earlier he brilliantly palmed away a menacing shot from Deans.

Muir was called into action 14 minutes before fulltime and proceeded to pester the Brisbane defence with charging runs through the centre.

Former Socceroo skipper, Gary Marocchi, emerged as the man of the match with a commanding midfield display which fulfilled his prediction in the match program that he has regained his confidence and was, "bursting to show it on the field."

Marocchi figured in one memorable move which highlighted his performance when he accepted four return passes to climax the run by heading the ball against the crossbar.

—Allan Crisp

4

BRISBANE LIONS 1(0)
STH.MELBOURNE 2(1)

Goals: 0-1 Campbell (4m), 1-1 Reid (52m), 1-2 Rogers (73m).

BRISBANE LIONS: Lowndes 2, Ontong 3 (Hogg 81m), Hermiston 4, Bennett 4, Niven 4, Millman 3, Lindsay 3, Wilson 3, Reid 2, McNaughton 3, McGregor 3 (Hughes 58m). **Coach:** M. Carson.

SOUTH MELBOURNE: Laumets 4, Bannon 4, Xanthopoulos 4, Blair 4, Lutton 4, Christopoulos 4, Rogers 4, Wright 3, (Kalafatidis 81m), Buljevic 4, Evans, Campbell 4. **Coach:** J. Margaritis.

Referee: D. Nugent; **Crowd:** 3,400; **Caution:** Evans.

Lions did not celebrate their coming home with a victory, the main reason being that little bit of talent called George Campbell.

Campbell's skills showed all through the match but in four minutes he wriggled between the Lions' defence, picked up a deft Buljevic flick and calmly slid the ball past Lowndes to give his team a start.

The main difference between the teams became evident as the experience and skill of players like Bannon, Lutton, Rogers and Buljevic shone out against the effort and endeavour of their Lions counterparts who worked hard at getting back into the game.

Success came their way just after the break when Millman had a shot come back off the post to Reid who headed in from close range.

For 20 minutes the crowd were treated to a real ding-dong battle, with South Melbourne always looking the more likely side, but the Lions players, ever mindful of their weather ally were hoping they could force their opponents to the point where tiredness could cause error.

However, as often happens, the error came at the other end when once again Campbell floated a beautiful cross to the far post.

Lowndes and Ontong got into a terrible mix-up and Rogers had little trouble putting a header into the net.

Lions roared back and substitutions were made by both coaches but the result stood and on the day perhaps it was just about the right one.

South Melbourne are on the way back after their disastrous season of 1979 but still they lack the deadliness in front of goal that they will have to have if they are to realise their potential.

Lions, a hard working team in the true sense of the word, will win some and lose some with their present squad, but they will have to keep improving if they are to stay with the front runners.

It is an old adage that there is no substitute for skill and that was the deciding factor in this game with only Hermiston, Bennett and Niven shaping up to the class facing them.

— Jim Binnie

5

HEIDELBERG 4(4)
WEST ADELAIDE 2(0)

Goals: Cole 3-0 (5,8,10m), Paton 4-0 (34m), Atsalas 3-1 (56m), Kosmina 3-2 (73m).

HEIDELBERG: Banovic 4, **McMillan 5**, **P. Bannon 6**, Yzendoorn 4, Tansey 4, **Selemides 5**, Rooney 4, Campbell 4, **Paton 5**, **Cole 6**, Bozikas 4. **Coach:** Rooney/Bannon.

WEST ADELAIDE: Crook 5, Bozanic 4, Tymczyszyn 4, (Totsikas 46m), **Topolanski 5**, Forde 4, McGregor 4, **Carruthers 5**, Boyle 4, Atsalas 4, Honeyman 4, **Kosmina 5. Coach:** G. Chaldi.

Referee: C. Bambridge (Vic.); **Crowd:** 4,185.

There seems to be a strong feeling among several Newcastle United players that Sydney City make up an unbeatable combination, despite that thrilling Philips Cup win last year.

This feeling was evident early in the match when Ken Boden "thumbed his nose" at his old teammates with a beautifully timed header past Jim Preston.

Preston took over from Phil Dando, who suffered a shoulder injury in training last week.

After Boden's goal Newcastle showed some spirit in attack with Graham Heys setting up two very promising movements, but another spasm of shoddy defence allowed Sydney City to stroll through for their second goal.

Bertogna failed to pick up Murray Barnes, then skipper Roy Drinkwater badly mistimed his clearance before Borges finished off the series of errors to score.

Preston was unlucky to see his brilliant parried save cancelled out when the ball ran clear to Borges.

Despite the strong wind advantage Newcastle continued to retreat into defensive positions making the task of tearaway striker Mark Trenter increasingly difficult against stonewall defenders Steve O'Connor and Eddie Thomson.

In remaining minutes of the first half a speculative 30-metre shot from David Jones crashed against the upright with Todd Clarke sprawling helplessly.

But the agile goalkeeper was right on his mettle on halftime to make a superb clearance from a Joe Senkalski snapshot.

Down 2-0 at halftime saw a grim-faced Alan Vest disappear into the dressing room with his players, but worse was to follow.

His halftime counselling was all in vain when Sydney City ripped through for their third goal within a minute of the restart.

Barnes had time to pinch himself to see if he was dreaming when left completely unmarked five yards out from goal and he duly obliged his colleagues with an unsaveable drive.

— Myles Hay

6

NEWCASTLE 0
SYDNEY CITY 3(2)

Goals: 0-1 Boden (7m), 0-2 Borges (22m), 0-3 Barnes (46m).

NEWCASTLE UNITED: Preston 4, Reaney 4, Summerscales 2, Drinkwater 3, Curran 3, Bertogna 2 (Mason 60m), Senkalski 3, Tredinnick 4, Heys 3, Trenter 3, Jones 3 (Burrows 71m). **Coach:** A. Vest.

SYDNEY CITY: Clarke 4, Souness 4, **Thomson 5**, (Spanos 75m), O'Connor 4 (Patikas 85m), Bruce 4, **Stevenson 5**, **Barnes 5**, Watson 4, Boden 4, Borges 3, **Silva 5. Coach:** E. Thomson.

Referee: J. Reeves; **Crowd:** 9,147; **Cautions:** Barnes, Reaney.

Gary Cole scored the fastest hat-trick since the start of the Philips League.

Yet he must have felt like kicking himself for not making his tally so much bigger going on the clear-cut chances he was presented with by his hard working teammates.

Cole scored his three goals in the space of five minutes in a whirlwind start by Heidelberg.

His first in the 5th minute was a superb solo run on a through ball by Pat Bannon. Cole beat Bozanic for pace and gave Crook no chance with his shot.

Three minutes later Jamie Paton and Jim Campbell exchange of passes presented Cole with an opening and he wallopped the ball into the net.

His simplest goal came in the 10th minute when he sidefooted the ball home after Arthur McMillan had touched on a Theo Selemides right wing cross.

Cole was also involved in Heidelberg's fourth goal when his shot cum left wing cross was coolly headed in by Paton who outjumped Shraga Topolanski in the area.

Peter Tymczyszyn shouldered the blame for Cole's hat-trick and was replaced by Tom Totsikas at half time.

But the fact that Heidelberg failed to increase the score after the break was not due to any tactical changes; the chances kept coming.

Three minutes later it was Rooney who split the defence but Cole ran onto the ball and beat the 'keeper with his shot then saw the ball slip narrowly past the far post.

And in the 58th minute, Selemides crossed low and hard after a good run down the right flank, but again Cole shot wide of the upright.

West Adelaide restored some of their pride when Steve Atsalas pulled a goal back in the 56th minute after Yakka Banovic had dropped a Graham Honeyman cross.

John Kosmina, who earned Chaldi's praise for his hard work, made the score a bit more respectable netting with 17 minutes to go from Peter Boyle's cross.

— Peter Desira

WHEN THEY RAN OUT OF GAS...

The Footscray v Canberra City match was cancelled in the last minute on Saturday because Canberra couldn't fly out of the petrol-starved city.

The Canberra team was at the airport, ready to travel when it was found that the refuellers had refused to service any aircraft.

PSL manager John Frank even tried to hire a small private aircraft to take Canberra to Melbourne — but all efforts failed.

Eventually, the airport was even closed.

So the Canberra players and officials had to go home and Footscray had to notify their own players and fans of the postponement.

At this stage, there has been no decision when the match will be played.

Charlton seeks "best" of England

Bobby Charlton will try to persuade England team manager Ron Greenwood to send the full "A" team to Australia in May.

Before leaving Sydney for London last week, Charlton said Australia deserved "the best."

He said there was a chance that the full England team — and not just "an" England team — would play in Sydney on May 31.

"They could fly out here two or three days before the match, then fly out again straight away and get to Italy in plenty of time to acclimatise for the European Championships," Charlton said.

Charlton agreed with the suggestion that the best possible team England can muster will play in Italy.

He said that while even a second string English side would be very strong for Australia, it was only proper to send the best to meet the Socceroos in Australia's centenary year.

Newcastle program

Newcastle United have again produced a marvellous match program — amounting to a perfectly printed little magazine.

Of those we have seen so far in the PSL, it is undoubtedly the best production, in line with Newcastle's brilliant promotional image.

It has however, an odd ommission: among the staff, in the directory, the manager Alan Vest's name is missing.

Also, it sadly follows the practise of some other clubs who are careless with the names of visiting team players.

Thus they list Jim Padikas (Patikas), Makos Silva (Marcos), and Neilo Burges (Nello Borges).

PHILIPS SOCCER LEAGUE '80

Sharne: "I'm used to being hacked"

match post-mortem

Dissection by Andrew Dettre

Undoubtedly the fastest soccer player in the Philips League, Marconi's Peter Sharne can be a delight to watch as he explodes on the wing, leaving desperate fullbacks behind as if they had cement boots on. He is one of the certainties for the World Cup team, Gutendorf's secret weapon against Asia — his V-3, one can say. Last Sunday Sharne, perhaps more than anybody else, tore the Blacktown defence to tiny, unrecognisable shreds. After the game we talked to this quiet modest and pleasant young man — who will be 24 on Saturday.

SW: Where do you get this fantastic speed of yours?

PS: I've always been a good runner and I won many trophies in school. But I preferred soccer. I used to run on Saturday and play on Sunday but it was getting a bit too much.

SW: Was anybody in your family an athlete perhaps?

PS: No, my father used to play soccer in Poland.

SW: When did the family arrive here?

PS: I'm not sure, about 30 years ago I think. I was born here.

SW: What was the family name?

PS: Dad changed it but I honestly can't tell you though my mother told me many times. I know my father and his brother had a big argument one day many years ago and dad went and changed the name to Sharne.

SW: Where do you work?

PS: I don't; I just play soccer. And as I live at home at Villawood, I can manage quite nicely on what I earn from Marconi. I'm an electrician by trade.

SW: Do you intend to become a fulltime player for ever or perhaps take up coaching when you retire?

PS: No, I wouldn't be any good as a coach, I'm too soft. When I can't run any more, I'll take up my trade again. But not for a while yet.

SW: Everybody admires Marconi's brilliant strikers, Sharne, Jankovics and Krncevic in action. How do you get on off the field?

PS: We're good friends. Krncevic lives nearby so we see a lot of each other but Mark lives at Carlingford and that's a bit further.

SW: Does scoring give you a special pleasure, a thrill?

PS: Oh yes — but it's just as good to see somebody else get a goal from my pass. I really don't care who scores so long as it's Marconi.

SW: What caused Blacktown's collapse?

PS: I think their marking was loose, very loose. I had a lot of room to move, too. Also, they left open the gaps for our men to run into for the ball.

SW: Were you surprised when in the second half the slow Pena was marking you, after replacing the injured Taylor?

PS: Actually, I was pleasantly surprised. I would have expected Turnbull to shift over to my side. He did that, too, towards the end and I found him a tough and fast opponent. But by that time it was 9-0.

SW: You smashed home a great left foot drive against Blacktown — did you take aim?

Peter Sharne: scorch marks on the grass where he runs...

PS: Not really, with my left foot I never know where I hit the ball, I just let it go and pray.

SW: In all matches fullbacks resort to some dubious tackles, fouls and shirtpullings to stop you. Does it bother you?

PS: Yes, it does at that moment — but I never retaliate. It pleases me, it gives me a kick to know that this is the only way they can stop me.

SW: How do you try to evade some of the crude tackles?

PS: I often push the ball ahead and try to run around the fullback, not giving him any chance ot get at me. But they still do. When they hack me, I'm annoyed but as I get up from the ground, I forget the incident. Let them worry about my next run.

SW: Have you had any bad injuries?

PS: Some four years ago I hurt my back at soccer. It still comes back at times, I have backaches and pains, may visit the chiropractor for a manipulation. But I've learned to live with this.

SW: You've travelled a lot already with the various national teams — any big ambition left?

PS: Europe, of course. I'd like to go to Spain in 1982 and I hope to visit Poland where my parents still have relatives. The old country, you know.

SW: Have you ever thought about leaving Marconi?

PS: No, never: I just about grew up here and the club has been very good to me. I don't think I'll ever want to leave.

SW: Who'll win the PSL championship?

PS: Marconi.

A.P.I.A. SOCCER CLUB

38-42 Frazer St., Leichhardt
Telephone: 82-0187

APIA

Saturday, March 29:

Special film night at the APIA club

Tuesday, April 1:
7pm: First Division Italian match
8pm: Newcastle v Leichhardt

Season's Greetings to Australian soccer, its officials, players and supporters.

PHILIPS

THIS WEEK THAT WAS...

Gerry Chaldi, limping from an incident at training, was a sad figure in the dressing rooms after the match. "There will be no big changes in the side despite the bad result," he said. "We paid the price that goes with building a new team. The result is not very good for the coach but you have to give the youngsters a go."

★ ★ ★

Adelaide City manager-coach Rale Rasic was critical after his team's goalless draw with Brisbane City of what he described as, "delaying tactics", employed by Brisbane's midfielder, John Coyne. "Coyne deliberately halted the taking of freekicks many times during the second half, yet the referee allowed only 48 seconds of additional time," Rasic said. "Coyne should not have been allowed to continue his time wasting, but since he was, extra time should have been added."

★ ★ ★

John Margaritis, South Melbourne: "I think under the climatic conditions today's victory was a good one for us. I feel we are round the corner now and are starting to play the type of soccer that I have always known we could play. Certainly all credit to Lions. It was a very clean game and my players were allowed to show what they can do."

★ ★ ★

Mat Carson, Lions: "We fought hard but there is no doubt that South Melbourne can play a bit of soccer and today they showed it. We shall continue to develop and work at a few weaknesses that were shown today."

★ ★ ★

Before the kick-off in the Newcastle KB United v Sydney City clash former local favourite Ken Boden was presented with his trophy as winner of the "Golden Goal Competition 1979". This was a golden soccer ball originally valued at $2,000 but has since tripled in value. Yet Ken had the temerity to drive the first nail in Newcastle's coffin with a goal in the 7th minute — that's gratitude for you!

★ ★ ★

Marconi's 9-0 slaughter of Blacktown was the biggest win in PSL history.

★ ★ ★

Les Scheinflug, Marconi: "Naturally, I'm pleased. The boys showed keenness and responsibility. I think you can say we're out of the slump..."

★ ★ ★

Marconi president Tony Labbozzetta: "This was great — but I think our 8-1 win over a strong Heidelberg had more merit."

★ ★ ★

Mick Jones, Blacktown: "I'm disgusted with the result and with the performance of the players. They were undisciplined, slack and, would you believe it, cocky before the game."

★ ★ ★

Tony Henderson, the Socceroo captain, is on the mend and will start training in about a week.

★ ★ ★

Peter Sharne, the brilliant Marconi winger, will be 24 on Saturday.

★ ★ ★

Mick Jones, Blacktown: "This was the worst defeat any team of mine has ever suffered in my career."

★ ★ ★

Sydney City will be able to move to their new ground, Sydney Athletic Field, after April1.

★ ★ ★

Happy problems for Marconi's Les Scheinflug: whom to drop once Tony Henderson and John Russell recover from their injuries.

★ ★ ★

A tug-of-war may develop over the colored Portuguese player Manecas. West Adelaide have signed him but Sydney City claim prior rights and have protested to the ASF.

★ ★ ★

Leichhardt will again film all matches of their team in the PSL and these will be shown regularly in the APIA club.

★ ★ ★

Sydney City manager Andrew Lederer: "We produced many chances in Newcastle: the team is again playing like a well-oiled machine. The reception we had in Newcastle was first class."

★ ★ ★

Kevin Mullen (honeymoon) and Terry Smith (injury) had to miss last Sunday's games for Sydney City.

★ ★ ★

St.George manager Les Bordacs: "It was pleasing that our new and young midfield gave such a mature display. Another newcomer, Bill Bullock, also made a promising debut."

★ ★ ★

Willie Wallace, Leichhardt: "Unfortunately, we didn't learn anything on Sunday we didn't know before. We simply lack goal-scoring strikers."

★ ★ ★

TONY BOSKOVIC WARNS

IRAN IS BETTER THAN EVER BEFORE

— By Paul James —

Australia's most controversial and flamboyant referee Tony Boskovic returned from the Asian Olympic Qualifying Tournament in Singapore last week with a grim warning about the standard of Iranian soccer.

Tony was one of nine referees appointed by FIFA to handle the tournament and was involved in eight matches, twice at the centre, and saw Iran take the tournament with amazing ease.

"The present Iranian team is at least 80 per cent better than the one we played in 1977," he said.

"People have been saying that Iranian soccer had collapsed because of the revolution, and the turmoil surrounding it.

"But the only evidence of the revolution is in their total dedication to the team."

Tony said the Iranians, skilled as we all knew, have now added the dimension of unbelievable team work and persistent attacking to their game.

"It looks to me as if we will have to pull our socks up really hard to catch up with Iran.

"Luckily though, they seem to be the one and only real threat.

"South Korea and North Korea are about on the same level, very skilled and strong, but lacking a bit in attacking ideas.

"China on the other hand suffer from the age old soccer failing of trying to walk the ball into the net when a simple shot would do."

It was no surprise to most soccer observers in Singapore that Iran were so good.

Despite the revolution, players just don't lose inborn skill, while a three-month preparation period before the tournament honed team work down to a fine art.

On the tournament as a whole, Tony was bubbling with superlatives for the organisation.

Tony Boskovic: now the aim is Spain.

"The various Asian nations, including Singapore, are master hosts.

"For the nine referees they provided four chauffeured cars, ready and waiting for our use 24 hours a day.

"We spent three days before the tournament brushing up on rulings, which is normal procedure.

"Some of the referees had little international experience and it was good for them to referee in such matches while more experienced referees like myself watched over them."

Tony felt that the progress of the Singapore national team was one of the most surprising features, after Iran's domination.

"They have improved their national team a long way from its standard two or three years ago," he said.

"However, I still don't think they would be a threat to Australia, as their 4-0 loss to Iran proved."

Then how did they manage to climb over South and North Korea and China into the final of the tournament?

"It was a combination of factors, but I would put a lot of it down to the very loyal, vocal home crowd.

"People nowadays automatically think that a home match is a big advantage.

"The Australian team, however, always seems to play its best overseas — away from the critical eyes of its 'fans'.

"We find too often in Australia that if the national team plays against Yugoslav, Greek, Italian, or whatever sort of touring team, then that particular ethnic group living here, suddenly forgets their adopted home and barracks against Australia.

"I think that is very sad.

"It was quite plainly visible in Singapore's matches, that they were lifted up on the crowd's enthusiasm and overwhelmed their opponents.

"Even when the team hit bad patches the crowd kept them going — it was truly remarkable," he said.

"That's what I would like to see here — support for our own countrymen by Australians, born here or migrants.

"If everyone involved in soccer chips in — and that means the fans too — then it will make the task of the national team a lot easier in getting to Spain."

Talking of Spain, Tony admits he would dearly love to represent Australia at the World Cup again.

"The 1974 World Cup was the proudest moment of my refereeing life, and it would be a great honour to be able to do it again.

"After Spain I think I would have one more year in me, and then it would be retirement from active refereeing," he said.

But first, Spain.....

DECISION ON TV IMMINENT

An announcement is imminent about the results of negotiations for the televising of Philips League matches.

Informed sources claim that Channel 9 is the most likely to screen the games, beginning some time in April.

The costs involved are staggering: it is believed that in order to televise PSL games on the high English standard, a studio will have to spend about $1 million in the first year to buy new equipment and engage staff.

If Channel 9 accept terms, they are likely to insist on a three-year contract with a further option.

BILL WADDELL DIES AT 60

Bill Waddell, president of the Queensland Soccer Federation, died suddenly last Saturday night at the age of 60 in Brisbane.

In 1971 he suffered a series of heart attacks but then recovered.

Bill — father of Brisbane journalist Bruce Waddell — was recently tour leader of the Young Socceroos in New Caledonia.

We offer our most sincere condolences to his family, friends and the entire Queensland soccer community.

ADELAIDE

Concerned about the future of the game in South Australia, the S.A. Soccer Federation has set up a technical Committee to look at its future planning and programming. Members of the committee are Wally Tkachuk, chairman of the board, Alex Hasting, former president of the S.A.S.F., Peter Nikolic, general secretary of the S.A.S.F., Mike Wells, director of coaching and Alex Kosmina, board member and co-ordinator. It is understood that this committee will look into the future of the State team, their coaching, preparation and financing.

□ □ □

It is interesting to note that this year's State junior coaches have been appointed much earlier in the season than usual. Another good point is that all the appointments have gone to accredited coaches; the under-18 side to Uros Zivkovic with Joe Larecki assisting, the under-16 to Nick Pantellis assisted by Peter Koulizos, the under-15 to John Warrender and the under-14 to Ron Olivieri.

□ □ □

Former Israeli international Shraga Topaz has been chosen in the SA soccer squad for the match against Victoria at Melbourne's Olympic Park on Easter Monday (April 17).

The squad is: Martyn Crook, Vic Bozanic, Shraga Topaz, Ian McKie, Peter Boyle, John Kosmina, Graham Honeyman (West Adelaide); Peter Marshall, Bugsy Nyskohus, Bobby Russell, David Jones, Sergio Melta, Brian Northcote, John Nyskohus (Adelaide City); Henry Kolecki, Howie Jacques (Polonia); Zoran Maricic (Campbelltown); Adrian Santrac (Beograd); Chris Kay (Victoria); Graham Norris (Azzurri).

FROM THE PRESS BOX

RUDI v CLUBS

Rudi Gutendorf is having another crack at one of his pet projects, trying to compel the PSL clubs to field at least one player under 19 in all matches.

Last year he fought for the introduction of the bonus point system; after long arguments, it was accepted — but then it flopped and has now been dropped.

Gutendorf, understandably, sees the problem of the under 19s from his personal viewpoint.

He has to build a strong team for next year's Coca-Cola World Youth Cup finals and he feels that such a step would help him enormously.

This is his job and he must do everything possible to accomplish it.

The clubs, on the other hand, are reluctant to make any such firm commitment.

They say that if they have any such players, they'll field them anyway, without outside force, as it's in their own vested interest to do it.

But if they haven't got one of the right class and calibre — are they expected to field one anyhow and weaken their team?

Sensibly they argue that this would reduce the standard of the PSL matches.

The clubs are adamant to fight the Gutendorf proposal and even defy the ASF on the issue.

This is their job and they also must do everything to accomplish it, too.

□ □ □

GREEK LAMENTS

A Greek publishing house takes every opportunity — and creates some more — to lament the dismissal of Sydney Olympic from the PSL.

In the process, they make some wildly inaccurate and sweeping claims about Olympic's record and crowd appeal.

The fact is that neither Pan Hellenic nor Sydney Olympic have ever won anything in Australian soccer.

Correspondingly with their declining status, they were also losing crowds.

In 1977 they drew 48,000 spectators to their 13 home games, in 1978 only 45,000 and finally in 1979 it was down to 38,000 — only 5,000 above the modest levels of St.George.

The fact is that Olympic's truly large potential has never been translated into tangible results.

To claim that the PSL is "unthinkable" without Olympic is sheer nonsense.

It is not only very thinkable — it is a reality.

And they can blame only themselves. With one of the largest ethnic colonies at their disposal, surely they should have done something more positive in their 19 years in the first division and PSL than remain a mere potential.

"With a winning side, Olympic could tempt five-figure attendances," a pundit wrote last week.

Sure. But they have not had a winning side for 19 years.

□ □ □

NOMEN EST OMEN?

All good journalists and proofreaders are taught early in their career about the sanctity of names: get it right, check it and doublecheck it.

But, it seems, this doesn't apply to foreign names...

The latest examples:

Sun-Herald, last Sunday: "Diego Maradonna..." and then "Mardonna" (instead of simply Maradona); "Caesar Monetto" (Cesar Menotti).

Sunday Telegraph, also last Sunday: "St.Petersberg Pirates" (St.Petersburg); "Henes Weisswiler" (Hennes Weisweiler).

□ □ □

WHERE, SENOR?

A little gem of an item from a Melbourne weekly:
"It happened in Brazil! At a match in Montevideo..."
Well, not quite, unless Uruguay has been secretly annexed.

□ □ □

THOSE MILLIONS...

Money awash..."$200,000 for the NSW Federation...$1 million from Philips...$2 million take-over bid from Polonia..." or so we read in the newspaper.

Well...The $200,000 is over three years and only a small portion of it (from Coca-Cola Bottlers) comes in cash.

The $1 million from Philips is also for three years, not for two as reported and includes some $700,000 for airfares.

As for the nebulous take-over story, I doubt if even Polonia meant it seriously.

Many of our soccer reporters pontificate against the "inflation in soccer" — then come out with these distorted stories implying that vast cash fortunes are being poured into the game.

No wonder the more gullible among the players get their dormant little greed working overtime.

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WAS IT "FOOTBALL?"

Last week a youngster died in Brisbane while playing "football."

This, anyway, is how some newspapers and radio stations announced the tragic news.

I wonder if you have noticed that when it concerns promotion, the game is called rugby league and when something unpleasant happens, it's hidden under the vague and collective term of "football."

Yet no soccer disturbance in the past was ever camouflaged the same way; it's always soccer, never just "football."

And they want you to believe that there's no bias...

— Andrew Dettre

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NSW CHAMPIONSHIPS

Ampol Cup final week's highlight

— By Paul James —

Although there was a general outcry against the early postponement of the whole State League round last week, some clubs were thankful for the chance to get injured players back into their teams for the coming matches.

On Friday night the Ampol Cup final will be the highlight of a weekend of promising matches.

Croatia, the team whose efforts virtually assured a continued interest in the State League over the past few years, will be ready to shape up against their new challengers.

Their team, composed of long serving veterans and youthful club products, is once again playing the constructive football which others find hard to counter.

The return of Kevin Coleman has strengthened their midfield again, while Maurice Sullivan is still most useful on the flank.

Olympic, even now still carrying on over their PSL relegation, have launched a concerted effort to win their way back into PSL contention, and the Ampol Cup must certainly be the first battle in this campaign.

Years of failure would make this victory taste even sweeter — but first they must overcome Croatia.

All the League matches will be played on Sunday, with Sutherland and Monaro meeting at Seymour Shaw.

Monaro, still trying to rebuild, will face an uphill task here.

Sutherland have a team of eager youngsters, out to prove to coach John Watkiss that they are worthy of continued first team spots.

Monaro have some talented players themselves, like Trajanovski and Talevski, but I feel Sutherland are a better unit at present and should win.

Our tip: Sutherland 2-0.

Table leaders Olympic and Avala meet at Knight Park in a match that has a lot of 'ifs' and 'buts' surrounding it.

Much will depend on Olympic's performance in the Ampol Cup final.

A win could boost them or make them over-confident, while extra time or a particularly hard match could weaken the team for Sunday's clash.

Avala caused a minor surprise by beating Auburn so easily in the first round, after they had performed so weakly in the early stages of the Cup.

However, it seems that they have a good balance of skilled and aggressive players, led up front by Karanfilovski and Tilt.

Though much could affect the result, we tip Olympic 2-1.

Croatia too may be feeling the effects of the final by the time they play Auburn.

These teams have had some close encounters in past years, and though Croatia have had the better of the exchanges, Auburn have always been a threat.

The midfield has been Auburn's main area of reconstruction, and as a result it may take them a little longer to get fully co-ordinated.

We tip Croatia 1-0.

The rampaging Scots — of Arncliffe, not Glasgow that is — trek north to Manly this week.

A valuable point against Sutherland would be a nice springboard for higher and better things this year.

Alex Kovacic, Croatia.

With a team not afraid to go forward in style Arncliffe should pose Manly some problems.

The Seasiders have a robust, powerful team but they lack a little polish, and with such players as Ainslie, Wignall, Leak, Montgomery and Tracey to spearhead them, I feel Manly will be swamped.

Arncliffe 3-0.

Parramatta officials, disappointed by the imminent loss of their star striker Tim O'Maye, are still hopeful of a good result against Ku-ring-gai.

Renowned for their up-and-down form last year, Parramatta will be out to make certain of two more points.

Ku-ring-gai, stung a little by Croatia's win in the first round, must get results soon, or they will be in danger of falling too far behind the field early in the season.

We tip a 2-2 draw.

At the Soccer Centre Bankstown entertain new boys North Sydney.

North Sydney, sharing the district name with their rugby league cousins are determined not to become the 'joke' team as the league side has.

Their 2-1 result over Manly was far from impressive, but the win should have done the morale of the young players a lot of good.

Bankstown, which started the season brilliantly in the Ampol Cup, disappointed against Melita and went down meekly.

It is doubtful if that will happen again here, and a cracking match should be on the cards.

We tip Bankstown 3-2.

In the final match Canterbury and Melita meet at Arlington Oval.

Canterbury, already deeply involved in plans to get the massive Canterbury junior association behind the club, must turn some of their attention to the first team, or all other efforts will be to no avail.

They have some outstanding players such as Hall, Brown and Williams but Melita, under coach Abonyi are headed back for the top of the ladder after last year's slump, and should win comfortably.

Melita 3-1.

Groundless Sydney may lose World Cup final

Because of its lack of proper facilities, Sydney may lose the final of the 1981 Youth World Cup.

The FIFA delegation which inspected our main venues earmarked for the 1981 World Youth Championship wasn't too impressed with the Sydney grounds.

Assistant general secretary of FIFA Rene Courte said the Cricket Ground wasn't ideal to generate football atmosphere and neither the Sportsground or the Athletic Field were up to standard.

"We liked Adelaide's Hindmarsh Stadium, Melbourne's Olympic Park and Newcastle's International Sports Centre," he said.

"Brisbane's Showground isn't suitable but Laing Park is a magnificent venue, meeting all requirements.

"The new Queen Elizabeth II stadium is a good ground, built at the wrong place with the wrong dimensions.

"We couldn't get to Canberra because of the fuel strike but we know that Bruce Stadium is one of the best in Australia."

Courte said certain improvements would bring all the nominated venues up to an acceptable level.

"On the whole, we are pleased with Australia's plans to stage the Cup in 1981.

"I can see less problems than we had two years ago in Tunisia and you are now in a better position than even Japan was 18 months before the event."

The FIFA delegation also included vice president Harry Cavan and FIFA Youth Development executive Sepp Blatter.

This week they will submit a report to the FIFA Organising Committee in Zurich, also attented by ASF chief Sir Arthur George.

Courte said, somewhat surprisingly, that the staging of the Youth World Cup was an "Australian domestic affair."

"The FIFA Organising Committee includes one Australian, Arthur George, whose responsibility it is to set up an organising structure in Australia.

/Some weeks ago Arthur George told us that we couldn't have an Australian organising committee until after this week's FIFA meeting. Editor./

"It's entirely up to you how and when you set this up; FIFA never interferes in this, we merely request progress reports on the preparations.

"Sir Arthur assured me that all details for the World Cup had been planned in sufficient detail."

A total of 96 countries have nominated for the World Cup, globally sponsored by Coca-Cola.

The 16 finalists will be made up this way:

Six from Europe, two from Africa, three from South America, two from North and Central America, two from Asia and the hosts, Australia.

Argentina, last year's winners in Tokyo, must qualify as all other teams.

FIFA has yet to decide in which elimination groups to place Israel — the eternal political problem — and the winner of the Oceania group.

The USSR, winners of the first Cup in Tunisia and runners-up last year in Tokyo, are in danger of being eliminated, having lost 2-0 to Yugoslavia at home.

The Australian Government has guaranteed that all finalists, regardless of any political considerations, will receive the necessary visa to enter Australia in 1981.

DIVISION

Otto Klaus who was assistant coach of the under 19 Australian National team in 1978-1979 is coaching Belmore this season.

Klaus is a highly qualified West German coach who has an A and B certificate from a West German coaching college.

He takes on an almost completely new team made up of young players from last year's third and second grades and some from the under 16 side.

Most of Belmore's last year's players have retired or left the club and these include, Denis and John Yaager who were stalwarts for the club for many seasons, Neil Clarke and Gary Frakes.

Basically a junior club, Belmore can hardly rush for the transfer market so the only course of action is to promote the juniors to the higher grades.

However, the club still retains some experience such as Phil Lambert who played for Canterbury and John Hawthorne who also was a State League goalkeeper for many years.

A new signing this year is defender Les Jones from Concordia but that is just about the only "import".

Yet, despite the drastic changes all round, club officials are very hopeful to do well in the competition.

Their first game of the season against Wollongong was washed out, their second against Blacktown United was cancelled because of the petrol strike and this week Belmore has a bye...

— Charles Spiteri

NSW FEDERATION OFFICIAL PROGRAM

COCA-COLA BOTTLERS STATE LEAGUE

THIS WEEK

ROUND 3, MARCH 22-23

Sutherland	v	Inter Monaro	Sunday, Seymour Shaw
Avala	v	Syd. Olympic	Sunday, Knight Park
Croatia Syd.	v	Auburn	Sunday, King Tomislav
Manly Warr.	v	Arncliffe Scots	Sunday, Cromer Park
Parramatta City	v	Ku-ring-gai	Sunday, Garside Park
Bankstown Dis.	v	North Sydney	Sunday, Soccer Centre
Cant.-M'ville	v	Melita Eagles	Sunday, Arlington Oval

DIVISION 1

ROUND 3, MARCH 22-23

Revesby	v	Sydney City	Sunday, Milperra Reserve
Polonia	v	Penrith Utd.	Sunday, Chopin Park
S.S.C.Yugal	v	Blacktown C.	Sunday, Concord Oval
Bathurst	v	Leichhardt	Sunday, 2 B.O.D.
Warringah	v	Uni NSW	Sunday, Narrabeen Fit.Cmp.
Marconi	v	Wollongong	Sunday, Marconi Oval
St.George	v	Blacktown Ud	Sunday, St.George Stadium

NEXT WEEK

ROUND 4, March 29-30

Inter Monaro	v	Croatia Sydney	Sunday, Bruce Stadium
Sydney Olymp.	v	Sutherland	Sunday, Pratten Park
Melita Eagles	v	Avala	Sunday, Garside Park
Auburn	v	Manly W'gah.	Sunday, Mona Park
Arncliffe Scots	v	Parramatta City	Sunday, Seymour Shaw
Ku-ring-gai	v	Bankstown Dis.	Sunday, Cromer Park
North Sydney	v	Cant.-M'ville	Sunday, Soccer Centre

ROUND 4, MARCH 29-30

Blacktown C.	v	Revesby	Sunday, Gabbie Stadium
Sydney City	v	Polonia	Sunday, E.S.Marks Field
Penrith Utd.	v	BYE	
Leichhardt	v	S.S.C. Yugal	Saturday, Lambert Park
Uni of NSW	v	Bathurst '75	Sunday, Prince Henry Oval
Wollongong	v	Warringah	Sunday, Berkely Sports Grd.
Blacktown Ud	v	Marconi	Sunday, Francis Park
Belmore	v	St.George	Sunday, Blick Oval

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WORLD NEWS

Aztecs lose $5m. but keep Michels

In his first official act as president of the Los Angeles Aztecs, Danny Villanueva made a move that will endear him to many of the former season ticket holders who had canceled their orders.

He rehired Rinus Michels to coach the team for the 1980 season.

Taking into account that the opening of the North American Soccer League season was a month away, and that the world's finest coach lived in nearby San Marino and was jobless since resigning his post, Villanueva signed the Dutch master to a one-year contract.

Michels survived an agonizing week that saw him lose Johan Cruyff to the Washington Diplomats, faith in the former ownership that brought him here from Europe only to sell the club, and hope that he could land another job this year since most teams in Europe are well into their seasons.

Michels went through a period of depression and confusion because he was upset over the way the former owners handled the transaction and at the same time felt a close friendship with Larry Friend who had tried desperately to save the club.

"I felt bad because we worked hard to build up the team last year and everything we accomplished seemed destroyed when the club was sold. I also felt bad for the players I had brought over here. By resigning, I was leaving them in a difficult position. I felt an obligation to them."

Rinus admitted he had a change of heart, and that Villanueva was willing to admit he needed a coach.

"Both of us were reaching for something and I think the entire organisation will benefit from it."

"Right now I am only concerned with putting together a winning team," he said.

"It is now a race against the clock. They have had scouts in Europe and in South America and have come up with a list of players who are available.

"It will not be easy. We have to be lucky and select the right players, then incorporate them into our team, then mould them so that they work together as a unit."

Earlier, flags were flying at half mast outside the offices of the Los Angeles Aztecs.

Players were milling around in a general state of confusion, wondering about their fate and wishing they knew how to speak Spanish.

Their leader on the field, Johan Cruyff, had been sent to the Washington Diplomats for an undisclosed amount of cash and future considerations.

Their leader on the sidelines, coach Rinus Michels, had resigned. And the club had been sold to California Aztecs Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Mexico City-based Televisa Corp.

The Aztec switchboard had been bombarded by irate callers wanting to know if the Aztecs were being moved to Mexico or the Coliseum or East Los Angeles and if the team was going to be stocked with only Mexican players.

Holland's Rinus Michels, again and still with the troubled Los Angeles Aztecs.

"There was nothing I could say or do to deny or confirm any of the rumours," said Danny Villanueva, president of the new group and also president of KMEX-TV in Los Angeles.

"Because we weren't yet the owners, and still won't be officially until all of the paper work is completed this week, we could say nothing."

Danny has plenty to say now, however. He is upset by comments coming from Cruyff in Washington saying he decided to go to the Diplomats because "they wanted to make it a Mexican team. They are going to bring in three or four Mexican players who are not too expensive and draw Mexican fans. They are going the Mexican way."

"It's unfortunate that he is saying those things," said Villanueva, "but I can understand how he feels.

"The truth of the matter is we would have kept Cruyff if we could have reached an agreement about his worth. We didn't have time to go into lengthy negotiations with him, so we felt the best way to deal with the matter was to buy the club without Cruyff."

Cruyff's salary, estimated at $750,000 a year, was something the former owners couldn't deal with, either. According to a reliable source who had access to the Aztec books, the club lost $4.9 million in two years, $2.7 million last year.

"Let me dispel a few rumours," said Villanueva.

"First, we are not bringing a Mexican team in here.

"I have no idea who our new players will be — that will be up to the coach — but we are committed to quality and will go wherever we have to in order to find world class players.

"We have scouts in Europe and Latin America and we are sure we will come up with a team that can compete in the North American Soccer League.

"Second, I have no idea where the wire story got their information about signing Fernando Morena (the forward from Uruguay). We know all about him and he's an outstanding player, but we don't own him.

"Third, we are not committed to the Coliseum or Rose Bowl for that matter although we'll probably play there in 1980.

"Fourth, we are now in the process of going over the contracts of all of the current players. We will negotiate with those who have options and those who have not yet signed their contracts. After that, it will be up to the coach to decide who he wants."

Villanueva did say that he felt there were some "awfully good Latin players who should have been playing here years ago," but didn't say who they were or if the Aztecs would now go after them.

"Like I said before, we are committed to quality and I think you will see an immediate difference in the way we dress, the accommodations on the road and in every aspect in our organisation. The differences will be very obvious and will be made very quick."

And naturally, everybody expects them to be seen on Villanueva's KMEX-TV station.

"I wouldn't make that assumption," said Villanueva, "but I do have some influence since I sleep with the president's wife."

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OVERSEAS BRIEFS

• Francesco Graziani, Torino's Italian international striker, is almost certain to sign for the German Stuttgart in May.

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• Arnold Muhrens, Ipswich's Dutch star, will return to the Continent and play for the Belgian Bruges.

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• Tele Santana, Brazil's new manager has decreed that his national team will play at least one match a month between now and the 1982 World Cup finals.

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• Sergei Simonyan, former manager of the USSR, has become the coach of Cernomorec club.

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• AC Milan goalie Albertosi, 40, will play either in the USA or with an Italian second division club next season.

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• Brazil has officially announced that it will participate in the "Little World Cup" in Uruguay next December.

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• Franz Beckenbauer is likely to renew his contract with Cosmos until October 1981.

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• Rinus Michels will return to Holland from the Los Angeles Aztecs and take over PSV Eindhoven.

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• According to reports from Budapest, Hungary's present national team manager Karoly Lakat may be replaced by Vasas coach Karoly Meszoly.

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• Van der Gool, FC Koln's Belgian striker, has joined the English Coventry.

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• Argentine world champion Jorge Olguin, 27, will play for Independiente. He refused to play last season for his club, San Lorenzo di Almagro because they owed him half a year's wages.

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• Colombia figures that they would have to invest some $28 million in stadiums to stage a 24-team tournament in the 1986 World Cup. The latest idea is for small Colombia to stage the Cup together with neighbouring Peru.

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• That Arab petrodollar...A small club in Qatar recently signed the full technical staff of the Brazilian Fluminense — coaches, trainers, doctor, masseur and gear steward.

□ □ □

• Paul Breitner, Bayern's brilliant star: "Our development of young players is at a deadend. We ruin our kids so much that they can't even tie up their shoelaces on their own."

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• Although it's not a soccer item, we feel we must include it here because of the greatness of the man involved: Jesse Owens, hero of the 1936 Olympics, 66, is in hospital with lung cancer.

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• Brazil is staging a special tourney in June to celebrate the 10th anniversary of their "tricampeo," winning their third World Cup. Mexico and Yugoslavia have accepted and Italy, Spain and Holland are also considering the invitation. (Now we know why Yugoslavia won't be in Australia in June...)

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• The Italian Pools ("Totocalcio") scandal is still very much under investigation. According to the 'Giornale Nuovo' newspaper, 27 players were involved including such big names as Rossi, Albertosi, Savoldi and Wilson.

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• The second division match in Portugal between Leixoes and Feirense was abandoned when, at halftime, several players rushed into the referees' room and demanded an "explanation" for some alleged grievances. One of the linesmen pulled a gun but he was disarmed.

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• Cosmos is touring South America, playing several matches there before returning home on March 26.

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• Olimpia of Asuncion, Paraguay won the Intercontinental Cup, beating the Swedish FF Malmo 2-1 after winning the first leg 1-0 in Sweden. Solalinde and Michelangoli scored the two Paraguayan goals in front of 35,000 spectators.

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• Holland's young winger La Ling, of Ajax, won't be able to go to the European Championship finals because he received a three-match suspension from UEFA after being sent off in a match in Leipzig.

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• Jimmy Hagan, coach of the Portuguese Setubal: "There are certain things in life you must accept. One is that in Portugal Benfica has the best players, referees and linesmen..."

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• Juventus are offering $500,000 a year to Kevin Keegan if he changes his mind and abandons his plans to play for Southampton.

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• These will be the two groups in the December "Gold Cup" in Uruguay: A: Argentina, Uruguay and Italy; B: Brazil, Holland and West Germany.

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• The German Dortmund have signed a Dane, Preben Larsen, 23, who, according to coach Udo Lattek, will be better than Alan Simonsen.

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• Rainer Bonhof played his 50th international for West Germany against Malta — and was the best man on the field.

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• Gerd Mueller was training with Augsburg for the start of the American season.

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